

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and the allowance of all claims now pending in the above-identified patent application (*i.e.*, Claims 16-20, 22-29 and 32-37) are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants and their Attorney wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of the allowability of the subject matter of Claims 21-24, 30 and 31 as part of the first Office Action.

In view of the subject matter indicated to be allowable, Applicants have amended independent Claim 16 to now incorporate the allowable subject matter of prior dependent Claim 21, thereby rewriting Claim 21 in independent form. The dependencies of Claims 22-24 have been appropriately amended, so that these dependent claims now depend directly from amended Claim 16. (Dependent Claim 21 has been canceled.)

Further, Applicants have canceled dependent Claims 30 and 31, and have rewritten the allowable subject matter of these claims as new independent Claims 36 and 37, respectively.

The prior art rejections of the first Office Action are submitted to now be moot.

Applicants respectfully contend that Claims 16-20, 22-29 and 32-37 are now in condition for allowance.

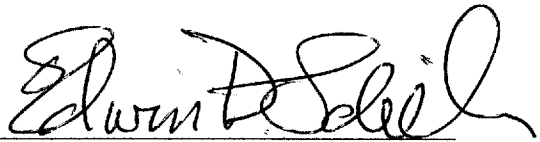
Finally, Applicants are filing an *Information Disclosure Statement* listing the references cited in the International Search Report by the European Patent Office for formal consideration by the Examiner, as discussed in the first Office Action at Page 2. The IDS filing fee of \$180.00 is being remitted via EFT for consideration of the *Information Disclosure Statement* following issuance of a first Office Action on the merits.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully contended that all claims now pending in the above-identified patent application (*i.e.*, Claims 16-20, 22-29 and 32-37) recite a novel coil array for magnetic resonance imaging with reduced coupling between adjacent coils, which is patentably distinguishable over the prior art. Accordingly, withdrawal of

the outstanding rejection and the allowance of all claims now pending are respectfully requested and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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- Enc.: 1. Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time for Response;
2. Information Disclosure Statement; and,
3. EFT for \$705.00 (Three-Month Extension Fee + IDS Fee).

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account of Applicant's Attorney (*Account No. 19-0450*) for any fees or costs pertaining to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application, but which have not otherwise been provided for.